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SOURCE Mechanizator Rolnictwa, No 6, 1952.

FALL SOWING INSTRUCTIONS IN POLAND

Winter grains should be sown in well-seasoned or well-rolled soil. The seeds are usually covered by harrowing after drilling. If the fields have been well cultivated and the seeds are covered uniformly, further harrowing is unnecessary; the furrows formed by the furrow openers will protect the winter crop from cold winds during a snowless winter. During a period of drought when germination is poor and uneven, the ground should be rolled after seeding and then lightly harrowed.

To obtain normal germination and proper development of the plant, the seed must be sown at the proper time.

The following are the winter grain-sowing periods for PGR (Panstwowe Gospodarstwa Rolne, State Farms) as established for Poland's climate by scientific experimental stations and practical experience:

1. Northeastern Regions: barley, 5 - 10 July; rye, 1 - 15 September; and wheat, 5 - 15 September.
2. Eastern Regions: barley, 5 - 15 August; rye, 8 - 30 September; and wheat, 14 - 25 September.
3. Central, Western, and Northwestern Regions: barley, 10 - 20 August; rye, 10 - 25 September; and wheat, 15 - 30 September.
4. Southwestern Regions: barley, 15 - 25 August; rye, 15 - 30 September; and wheat, 21 September - 10 October.

Beside winter grains, winter rapeseed and vetch are also cultivated. In the northwestern and northern regions, winter rapeseed should be sown up to 10 August, in the southwestern regions up to 25 August, and in the remaining regions up to 20 August. Winter vetch should also be sown early since it must be well rooted before winter sets in. In Poland, vetch is usually sown in the second half of August and rye 2 to 3 weeks later.

- 1 -

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In sufficiently moist soils, winter grains should be sown at a depth of about 2.5 centimeters and in dry soils somewhat deeper, but rapeseed should not be sown deeper than 1.5 centimeters.

The depth of the sowing should be checked when the sowing starts and again during operations. The furrow should be sprinkled with water and then cut with a knife. On one side of the cut, the soil should be very carefully thrown to one side, the seed uncovered, and the depth measured. The test should be made in several places in the field to check the uniformity of sowing depth.

For example, the norm for seeding winter wheat is about 160 kilograms per hectare. If the length of the field is 400 meters and the span of the drill is 3 meters, one strip will cover 1,200 square meters or 0.12 hectare. At 160 kilograms per hectare, the drill should use 19.2 kilograms of seed for 0.12 hectare.

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- 2 -

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